



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.2420 | FAX (517) 373.2764

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Karen Szczepanski  
(517) 373-2420

## **Community asked to help 1462<sup>nd</sup> Transportation Unit by donating items during third Care Package Drive *Donations can be dropped off at Howell Armory***

LANSING-Once again, State Senator Valde Garcia, R-Howell, has teamed with local veteran's organizations and the 1462<sup>nd</sup> Transportation Company's Family Readiness Group to organize a care package drive. The group is asking the community to support their local military personnel who are currently deployed in Iraq, by donating items including clothing, food and power tools. The third drive will be held on Monday, July 19 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Howell Armory, located at 725 Isbell Road, Howell.

"We had an outstanding amount of community support during our first and second drives," said Garcia. "On behalf of all our area soldiers and their families, I would like to say thank you again for your donations. As in our last collection drive, we are asking that donations include at least five of the same item so that we are able to evenly distribute goods among each of the five platoons that have been deployed from the 1462<sup>nd</sup>."

Garcia also explained that they have had requests for power tools.

"These tools can be purchased through the donation of Home Depot gift cards," said Garcia. "The Family Readiness Group can then use the donated cards to purchase the specific tools requested by the unit."

The Family Readiness Group, Rolling Thunder, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars groups throughout Livingston County and Senator Garcia's office have established a Howell Care Package Drive Committee. The group intends to host various collection drives throughout the 1462<sup>nd's</sup> tour of duty.

Additional collection locations include:

- Hamburg VFW Post 1224, 8891 Spicer Road, Hamburg
- Brighton VFW Post 4357, 10590 Grand River Ave., Brighton
- Howell American Legion Post 141, 3265 W. Grand River, Howell

Items may be donated at these locations during normal business hours.

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Items needed:

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|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Sunscreen (Alcohol free)           | 21. Ramen noodles                  |
| 2. Chap stick                         | 22. Pop-top cans of food           |
| 3. Gator Aide (powder form)           | 23. Juice boxes                    |
| 4. Sports magazines                   | 24. Chips/pretzels                 |
| 5. Playing cards                      | 25. Hot sauce packets              |
| 6. Pens                               | 26. Travel games (new and used)    |
| 7. Paper                              | 27. Disposable cameras             |
| 8. DVD's (no adult content permitted) | 28. Beef Jerky (100% Grade-A beef) |
| 9. CD's (no adult content permitted)  | 29. Baby wipes                     |
| 10. Candy (not chocolate)             | 30. Baby powder                    |
| 11. Gum                               | 31. Toothbrushes                   |
| 12. Band-Aids                         | 32. Liquid soap                    |
| 13. Children's books (new and used)   | 33. Non-aerosol deodorant          |
| 14. New T-shirts                      | 34. Feminine hygiene items         |
| 15. New Shorts                        | 35. Envelopes                      |
| 16. Shampoo                           | 36. Foot powder                    |
| 17. Toothpaste                        |                                    |
| 18. Dental floss                      |                                    |
| 19. Contact solution                  |                                    |
| 20. Sunglasses                        |                                    |

**\*\*NO MORE BOOKS ARE NEEDED\*\***

Financial donations are also being accepted to help defray the cost for mailing the care packages. Checks may be dropped-off at any of the collection sites. All monetary donations are tax deductible.

Care packages have been assembled as the items have been collected. So far, the group has sent out at least two waves of care packages, providing gifts from home to each of the five units deployed from Howell. For more information about items being collected, please contact Senator Garcia's office at (800) 516-0026.

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